

The Indian Missionary Record

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Lebret, Sask.

March 1, 1941

School Principal to Speak over CKY on April 2nd

The Rev. M. deBretagne, O.M.I., principal of Lebret Indian school, will give a talk over CKY, Winnipeg, at 4 p.m. C.S.T. His topic will be "Canadians from France," in the series sponsored by the university of Manitoba: Emergent Canada.

THE WAR DURING JANUARY, 1941

Early in January bombs were dropped over neutral Ireland.

Jan. 5-30—The British forces in Africa take Bardia, Tobruk, Derna, in Lybia. On **Feb. 6th** Bengasi, last Italian stronghold in Eastern Lybia is taken. The British also advance in Eritrea.

In Albania the Greeks have taken Klisura, and slowly advance to the North. (Jan. 10).

Jan. 10.—German airplanes aiding Italy in Mediterranean damage airplane carrier *Illustrious* and sink cruiser *Southampton*. In retaliation the British navy shelled Genoa.

In Rumania the revolt of the Iron Guard was quelled by premier Antonescu, and later, as the Germans take control of the country, Britain severs diplomatic relations with Rumania. (Feb. 10).

The Germans are gradually and quietly invading Bulgaria.

MISSION NOTES

File Hills Colony.—The Catholic Indian Club activities have been unhampered by the severe weather. Although the boys have not been able to have their own skating rink, they have played broomball at Balcarres and Abernethy on several occasions. Interesting lectures have been given every month at the Club, the RR. Fathers Dion, Joyal, Piché, of the Lebret Scholasticate, being the successive guest speakers. There is talk of organizing the farmers into a co-operative club, such as the one being experimented with at the Agency.

Piapot I. R.—Piapot Reserve boasts of having a rising boxing champion. Jos. Carrier, ex-pupil Lebret school, has won the 1940 provincial bantam-weight title, and still holds it in 1941.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Lavallee on Feb. 1st, at the Indian hospital. A husky chief was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Desjarlais on Feb. 5th, and was baptized on the 9th. Congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ball announce the marriage of their daughter Mary Agnes, to Thomas Octave Kayasowatum, on Feb. 24th.

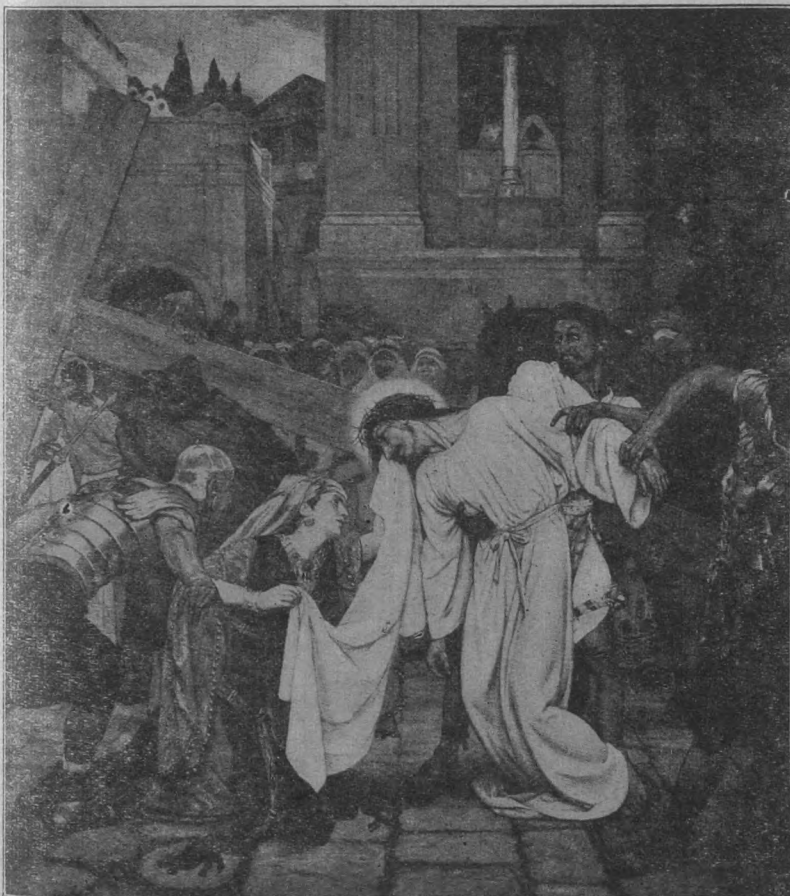
R.I.P.—A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Ironchild died during the flu epidemic two days after her birth, on Jan. 16th. Heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved parents on behalf of the members of Piapot I.R.

Jake and Gilbert McLeod have now joined the C.A.S.F.

(Victoria Francis, reporter)

Abanquet.—A banquet was given by the church committee in honour of Fr. Guy's birthday, on Feb. 9. It was organized by Mrs. B. Crowe. We wished our Missionar ya "Happy birthday."

(A. Carrier)



Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR MARCH

- 2—First Sunday in Lent; Gospel: Jesus tempted by Satan, St. Matt. 4:1-11.
- 5-7-8—Ember days, fast, and abstinence from flesh meat.
- 9—Second Sunday in Lent; Gospel: The Transfiguration, St. Matt. 17:1-9.
- 16—Third Sunday in Lent; Gospel: Jesus casts out a devil, St. Luke 11:14-28.
- 17—St. Patrick.
- 19—St. Joseph.
- 23—Fourth Sunday in Lent; Gospel: Multiplication of the loaves, St. John 6:1-15.
- 24—St. Gabriel, archangel.
- 25—Annunciation of the B. V. Mary.
- 30—Passion Sunday; Gospel: The testimony of Christ, St. John 8:46-59.

Read your Sunday Gospel in your Prayer Book while assisting at Mass, or at home.

ST. PHILIP'S SCHOOL

DIARY

Jan. 6—On King's Day, the custom here among the pupils is to select a king and a queen for the day. This is done by concealing a pea and a bean in the dinner cake. After every pupil has received his piece of cake the pea and the bean confer the royal dignity to the finders. A party is then prepared for them in the evening. They are placed on a high throne, crowned and given a wand. Their first duty is to address their subjects by a short, appropriate speech, then they are honoured by a programme of music, songs, dances, recitations, according to their majesties' wishes, who designate one or the other of their subjects to appear before them and perform; if the queen is pleased, the performer receives some candies from her majesty.

Jan. 8—Our two hockey teams motored to Kamsack Wednesday evening to challenge the town's Juveniles and Pee Wees. Our small boys mastered their opponents, while our Juveniles were defeated 11 to 3.

Jan. 17—The Junior Red Cross, the Gay Ramblers, had their regular meeting and had a distribution of wool to knit sweaters and mitts for the Red Cross and the Army.

Jan. 23—A concert was held at the school, as an occasion to express to our Father Principal our gratitude for all the good things received, especially at Christmas. The programme comprised a play in three acts; the actors had very nice costumes. Between acts there were recitations, "The Little Preacher" by Napoleon dressed as a little priest; "Somebody's Mother" by H. D. Badger, dressed as a boy scout; Bernadette read a story on the microphone; nine little niggers with stiff straw hat and cane drilled and caused much laughter; but the cutest was the little girls' drill in their "Good Night" or bed-time attire. A short play in Sauteux "The Windigo" was very funny. The concert ended by an address read by Bernadette, to which Father answered and said he was very well pleased as it was the best performance he had witnessed here yet; bidding us good night he granted us a holiday. (Edgar Kitchimonia, Gr. VII)

Feb. 5—A double victory. As the highway was snow drifted, the boys made the 11 miles to Kamsack in covered sleighs; as they went along other loaded sleighs joined in to form a caravan on the road—they were Indian hockey fans, on their way to the game to cheer the boys. At the rink cheers came from all around the ice as the games progressed. After our Pee Wee Dive Bombers scored a 7-0 shut-out in their game, and when the St. Philips Maple Leafs stepped on the ice the excitement rose high. When little Joe shot the first goal of the game it was the signal for a victory. "Now boys, do your stuff!" urged our fans, and from then on, a sting of energy seemed to have roused the whole team. The boys knew they were facing the same force that raked them before, but they made up their minds to win this game. Donald Cote scored 4 goals, Joe Quewezance 2, Francis Quewezance 1, and Duncan Cote 1, the final score being 8-3.

SANDY BAY RECORD

Jan. 19th.—Reverend Father Comeau left today to go and visit his mission of Ebbs Flow.

Jan. 25th.—Today is the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the Order of the Oblates. It is a great feast for our Reverend Fathers and also for us. We began feasting in singing a solemn High Mass. In the evening our hall was wide open to all those who wished to hear our children speak and act, for they were giving a little entertainment in honour of our Beloved Fathers. Our play started at 7.00 P.M. We had the youngest of our children speak their love and gratitude in a playlet which was much appreciated. A chorus was sung by all the children followed by an address read by Elsie Roulette. Last of all a live tableau representing our Blessed Mother protecting their Worthy Founder, accompanied by three Oblate Fathers. Rev. Fr. Comeau closed the show by a short but touching speech showing his appreciation and gratitude. Everybody left us, satisfied with their evening. The following day was a day off for us. Every moment of it was happy without forgetting to be charitable to one another.

Feb.—Mrs. Roulette, 95 years old, is dead. It is a very respectful age to die at, and Rev. Fr. Comeau told us she had always led a good life, and given good example. We are also very glad to say she made a happy death.

Father has installed a loud-speaker in both boys' and girls' play-rooms, and I think there is no need of telling how much we appreciate hearing Father speak to us from his room, giving us good advice. We also enjoy the music heard from the radio. Many thanks to kind Father who thinks of inventing such lovely things to please us.

A campaign is being made since a few weeks to learn English. Each pupil has been provided with tokens. At the end of each week these are gathered and the ones who have the most have their names on the Roll of Honour which has been prepared and put up in the Indian's Parlor. Those having over twenty, have a gold star, which is placed on the Roll near their names. We are giving here the names of the ones having a gold star: Christina Manijens, Christina Beaulieu, Elsie Roulette, Jane Malcolm, Rose Mcay, Leonard Mousseau, James McKay, Sam McKay.



St. Philips School Hockey Team, 1940

Back row: Ambrose Musqua, Ernest Severight, Xavier Quewezance, Wilfrid Brass (Captain), Frank Quewezance, Robert Quewezance. Front row: Adelard Chartrand, Edgar Kitchimonia, Wilfrid Campeau, Duncan Cote, Albert Kishane (goaler), and Dolphis Musqua.

? THE QUESTION BOX ?

(a) If a Catholic attempts marriage with a non-Catholic before a Protestant minister, would he be excommunicated from the Church? Might he go to Church, although not receiving the Sacraments?

(b) If a Catholic should attempt marriage to a non-Catholic before a justice of the peace, would the consequences be the same?

(c) What steps should be taken in either of the above cases for remarriage in the Church?

(a) A Catholic marrying before a Protestant minister and being aware of the punishment affixed to this act, i.e. excommunication, would, by that act, incur the excommunication. Such a person would not be barred from Church but could not receive the Sacraments until absolved from the excommunication.

(b) A Catholic marrying before a justice of the peace would be guilty of a grave sin but would not be excommunicated. The reason is evident; one is a religious ceremony in a false faith; the second is not.

(c) A Catholic involved in either of the two previous cases must be validly married in a Catholic Church. The local pastor will investigate the matter and state the requirements. If excommunication was incurred, absolution must be obtained. A dispensation from the law of the Church which forbids mixed marriages must be obtained.

Why do Catholics believe in Purgatory?

Catholics believe in Purgatory because without such a place of purgation most men could not be saved at all. Only the wilfully wicked go to hell; only the perfectly perfect go to Heaven. But what about those who are neither altogether good nor altogether bad, who leave this world soiled with slight sin? That, let us hope, will take in most of us. On the word of God absolutely nothing defiled may enter into heaven (Wisdom 7, 25; Apocalypse 21, 27). If such are to be saved at all it can only be in a place and through a process of purgation which the Christian Church has ever called Purgatory. In the words of St. Paul, there are sins for which "he shall suffer loss, but he himself shall be saved yet so as by fire." At the time of our Lord there was such a place or prison and there were souls in it because in times past they had been incredulous. Yet they were just souls, for to them Christ descended immediately after His death on the cross that He might announce to them the glad news of their ransom and redemption. Then too, recall that other word of warning of our Lord, reminding man of that prison from which He says: "Thou shalt not go out from thence until thou repay the last farthing." This is exactly what the Church understands by Purgatory. The word Purgatory is not found in the Bible, but the idea embodied in that word is set forth in the Bible many times over.

Is thanksgiving after Holy Communion important?

Indeed it is. No time is more favorable for enriching the spiritual life that is in us than after Holy Communion. And the best thanksgiving is to prolong our union with Jesus. Giving thanks should

begin with an act of silent adoration and of complete surrender of ourselves to Jesus in order to bless Him, to praise Him and thank Him. Nothing so enables Jesus to take full possession of our perfect surrender to Him. It is the time to speak with childlike reverence and confidence to our Master and to listen attentively to Him; it is the time to pledge Him the sacrifices required to reform our conduct and to transform our lives; it is the golden opportunity to pray for all those who are dear to us and for our own private needs. Christ still comes to communicate His life to us: "I am come that they may have life and may have it more abundantly." (John X, 10).

How does the soul of man come into existence?

The soul of man comes into existence by a direct creative act of God. The Church teaches that every human soul is a new and separate creation of God, as much a distinct and direct creation of God as the creation of the world itself. That was true of Adam; that is true of all his descendants. Each one of us came into existence by a direct creative act of God. This is the fundamental reason for the undying opposition of the Church to all such things as murder, abortion, birth-control, and race-suicide.

What excuse do you make for all the bad Catholics in the world today? Didn't our Lord say, "By their fruits you shall know them?"

"By their fruits you shall know them." Certainly. But how do you judge the fruits of any tree? By the rotten apples on the ground or by the sun-kissed product on the branch above? We Catholics, I am sorry to say, do have our renegades. That is true. Christ had His Judas and the Church has hers. But just as it would have been unfair to judge Christ by Judas, so too is it unfair to censure His Church on the score of those who fail to live up to her teachings.

Is it permissible to eat food sold as "pork and beans" on Friday?

The dish called "pork and beans" may be eaten if the pork has been removed and the amount of meat would be such as only to have given flavor to the dish. If the amount of meat used were to render the dish a meat dish or a meat broth it would be forbidden.

The Indian Missionary Record will endeavour to answer questions submitted by its readers.



Birds Must Eat

The people of Northern Europe have a beautiful custom of feeding the wild birds all winter. In Norway and Sweden each farmer leaves a bundle of oats tied to a pole for the birds to feast upon. At Christmas time when the country man brings in the trees to sell to the city folk, he also has with him a large supply of "juleneg," or unthreshed grain, a portion of which he sells with each tree; and outside each home, where the Nativity Tree is set up, birds may find food. The Scandinavians residents of the Northwest tried to introduce this custom into the U.S.

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REV. G. L. LAVIOLETTE, O.M.I., Editor.

Cum permissu superiorum.

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MARCH 1, 1941.

EDITORIALS

THE PRECEPT OF EASTER DUTY

A true Christian will not only observe faithfully the Ten Commandments of God, but he is also bound to obey the precepts of the Church. Jesus Christ Himself gave the Church the right to make laws for its members when He said: "If he will not hear the Church, let him be to thee as the heathen and the publican. Amen, I say to you whatsoever you shall bind upon earth, shall be bound also in heaven." (Matt. xviii: 17-18). As no society can exist without the power to govern its members and no government is possible without laws, it follows that the Church can make laws and has power to enforce them. The Church has authority to punish disobedient members by refusing them the Sacraments, by excommunication, by refusing burial in blessed ground.

One of the precepts of the Church commands us to confess our sins once a year; another precept binds us to receive the Holy Eucharist during Easter time. The first of these two precepts is directed to every Catholic who has come to the use of reason, and therefore includes the children. While no special time is appointed for the yearly confession, it is usually made in preparation for the Easter communion.

The second precept commands us to receive Holy Communion at Easter time, that is from the first Sunday in Lent (this year, March 2) until Trinity Sunday (June 8). It is mortal sin to omit the Easter communion. As mentioned above, it also binds the children who have come to the use of reason; and it is the obligation of the parents, teachers and pastors to see that the young children under their care receive the Easter communion. The Church prescribes annual communion that the faithful may comply with the divine command of receiving the Blessed Eucharist, and that the life of grace may be preserved in their souls. "Amen, Amen, I say to you," says our Lord, "except that you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood, you shall not have life in you." (John vi, 54).

As Christ died and rose again at Easter time, it is proper that the Christian at this time should die to sin by penance and rise to the life of grace by worthily receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist, which is a pledge to the future resurrection.

Every Catholic should therefore remember that this is a sacred obligation, and should not fail to obey these two precepts. The Easter communion should

be for every one the greatest religious rite of the year; and he should prepare himself with the utmost diligence to receive the Body of our Lord worthily. This is why confession is urged. "He that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the Body of the Lord." (1 Cor., xi 29). Freedom from mortal sin is not sufficient to confer plentifully the graces of Holy Communion, but one should be free from all affection to venial sin, and should make acts of Faith, Hope and Love as an immediate preparation to Holy communion. After Holy communion one should spend some time in adoring our Lord, in thanking Him for the grace we have received, and asking Him for the blessings we need.

Let us hope that those who have neglected these duties in the past will think seriously about their obligations as true Christians, and will endeavour to confess their sins and receive Holy Communion this year at Easter time. —G. L., O.M.I.

WAR SAVINGS

Every one should make a special effort at this time, to help his country in winning the war. One of the easiest ways to help is by joining the Dominion's war savings campaign. It is a patriotic duty no one can shirk. In these difficult times, especially among the Indians, we would be tempted to say that it is well nigh impossible to save, as there is so little money available. However, it is not the amount that is put into war savings that matters, it is the principle of every one doing his bit.

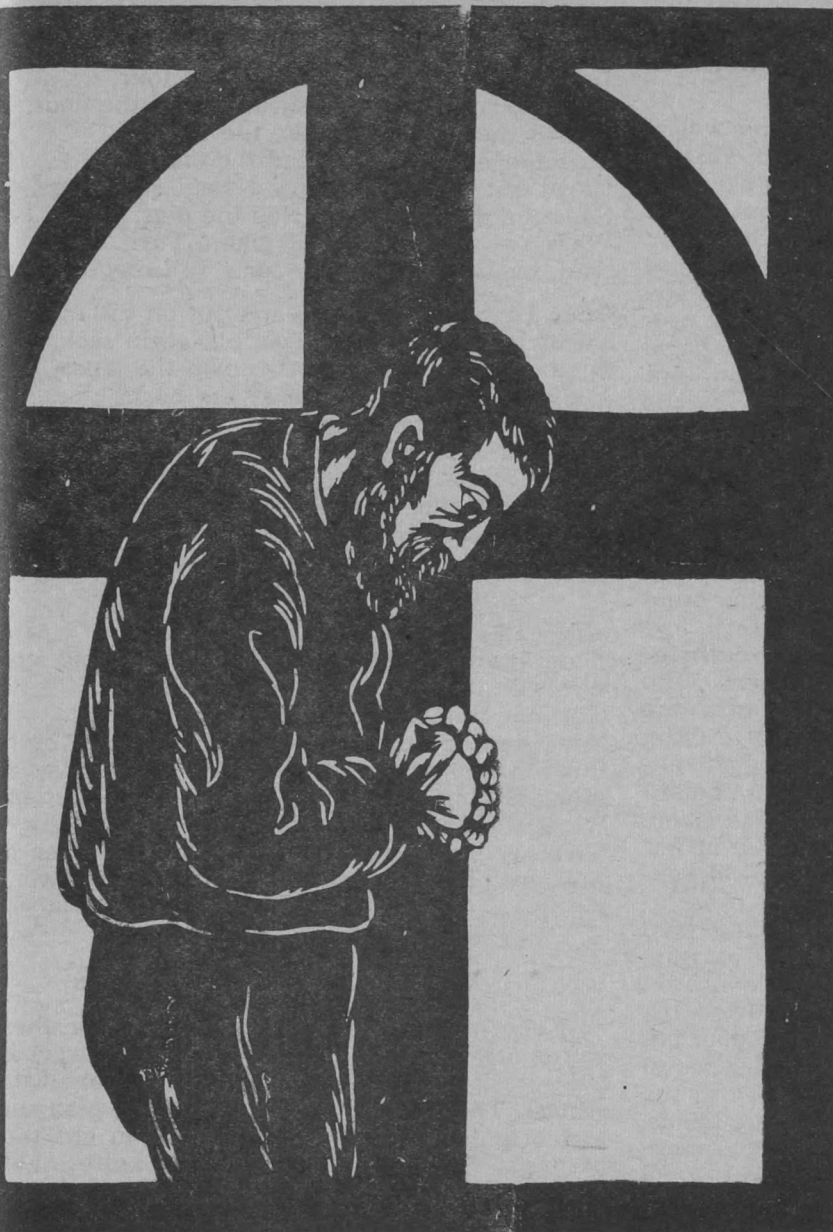
As concrete examples of this I can mention that many Indians, throughout Canada, have already bought War Savings certificates, some of them, every month. In boarding schools the children can be encouraged to buy war savings stamps, and I know it is possible for many children to save enough money during the year to buy a certificate. At the Lebret Indian school, the principal rewards the children who have been working with war savings stamps. There is no doubt that other schools are doing the same thing.

With Canada spending more than one million dollars a day for war expenditures, the country's need is very great. Winning this war means everything to us; the very existence of our country, its future prosperity is at stake. Let us be generous, and help our country, while at the same time making a sure and profitable investment. —G. L.

IT TAKES SO LITTLE

It takes so little to make us sad,
Just a slighting word or a doubting sneer,
Just a scornful smile on some lips held dear,
And our footsteps lag, tho' the goal seemed near,
And we lose the courage and hope we had.

It takes so little to make us glad,
Just a cheering clasp of a friendly hand,
Just a word from one who can understand,
And we finish the task we long had planned,
And we lose the doubt and fear we had —
So little it takes to make us glad.



The Correct Thing for Lent

It is the Correct Thing:

To begin the holy and penitential season of Lent by assisting at Mass and partaking of the blessed ashes on Ash Wednesday.

To resolve to observe all the regulations of the church as far as one is able.

To abstain from all worldly amusements from motives of piety and not because it is bad form to keep up social dissipations during Lent.

To be punctilious about attending the Lenten devotions Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

To assist at the daily Mass if at all possible.

To take but one full meal on any day in Lent (Sundays excepted), and then not till after twelve o'clock.

To know that meat is allowed but once a day except on Sundays.

To know that on Wednesdays and Fridays meat is not allowed, nor is it allowed on the second Saturday in Lent (Ember-day) or Holy Saturday. That if the dinner or full meal is taken at noon, one may take a cup of tea, coffee, or chocolate in the morning, and a collation, which is about the one-fourth of any ordinary meal, in the evening.

It is NOT the Correct Thing:

To fail to attend the Stations of the Cross, as well as the Wednesday and Sunday evening instructions.

To neglect daily Mass when able to attend. In cities where there are early Masses in nearly all churches, one who wishes, with a little mortification, may attend Mass.

To neglect spiritual reading, religious instructions, and acts of self-denial.

To omit works of charity when the occasion of doing good presents itself.

To begin Lent with the proper dispositions, and relax before it is over.

To neglect works of penance when one is free from the obligations of fasting.

To eat meat at the evening collation.

To be guided by the example of negligent Catholics rather than the written law of the Church.

To forget that far from being a pleasure, the Lenten season is a time of penance and should be spent accordingly.

For parents to show a negligence in the observance of Lent, and thus give bad example to their children.

(Courtesy "Marienbote," Regina)

To know that one is obliged to fast as soon as he finishes his twenty-first year, or begins his twenty-second.

That children should abstain from meat when they reach the age of seven years.

To remember that abstinence and fasting are two different things.

Every Friday in the year is a day of abstinence but is not a fast-day.

Every day in Lent except Sundays is a fast-day.

To remember that sick, convalescent, or delicate people are not obliged to fast. That those engaged at hard labor, tradesmen generally, etc., are not obliged to fast.

To lay aside the pipe and the bottle during Lent.

To devote the time of Lent to a building up of one's spiritual life.

To make Lent a red-letter period for the poor and suffering.

To remember that travellers should keep Lent abroad as well as at home, and that the mere fact of leaving home does not abrogate the Lenten obligations.

Some Interesting Facts.....

Figures

Of the 1,750 million human beings in the world, 800 million know nothing of the existence of Christianity; 240 million have divorced themselves from the Church of the Apostles; 160 million claim it but refuse obedience to the Vicar of Christ; 15 million still cling to the tradition of the Old Testament and refuse allegiance to the New. Those who still cling to the unity of faith are only 300 million. For every professing member of the Holy Catholic Church there are five persons in the world who either know not Christ or have rejected Him in the integrity of His Mystical Body.

Archbishop John Gregory Murray.



Unique

A tragedy took place 36 years ago on a farm, hidden in the depths of the Pontine Marshes not far from Nettuno. An innocent Italian girl, Maria Goretti, had long been subjected to the advances of a youth infatuated by her beauty. With untiring patience, she continued to reject his impassioned ardor, until one day the youth in a frenzy of passion, seized a knife, brutally attacked her and left her lying fatally wounded. Two days later, Maria Goretti died, but not before forgiving her assassin and praying for his conversion. Popularly regarded as having died in defense of her purity, Maria Goretti became the object of local veneration, and the Cause for her beatification was introduced. Recently released from jail, having paid the full penalty of his crime, the repentant assassin spontaneously asked permission to offer evidence on behalf of his victim. White-haired and bowed beneath the weight of his years in prison, the man appeared in person before the Congregation of Rites to offer the most precise testimony of the heroic virtue of the little peasant girl who had died at his hands. This moving scene greatly touched all who were present. It has justly been called "the Golden Legend of the 20th century."

—"The Cross," Nov. '38.



Nonchalance

There is a story, perhaps it is only a legend, that when Napoleon, having Pope Pius VII virtually in prison, came again and again to the Pope's apartment, stormed, ranted, cursed, threatened, in the attempt to persuade the Pope to do what the Pope's conscience forbade, Pius VII, bent almost double with age and infirmity, would look up from time to time and say softly, "What an actor, what an actor?" And when Napoleon was beaten at Waterloo in 1815 and even when he died at St. Helena in 1821, the same feeble old Pope was still ruling the universal Church from the Vatican.

—James M. Gillis, C.S.P., in a radio address)

A Short Short Story

Two little tots of 6 and 7 met on the stage. One said: "Hello Broadfoot!" The other answered: "Hello Pete!" The first speaker said: "I have found a nickel". The other answered: "What will you do with it?" "I will buy a cigar", was the reply. "No", answered the other "I'll have nothing". "Yes Broadfoot, I'll smoke and you'll spit", said Pete.

A FARMER'S LIFE

Down on the farm 'bout half-past four,
I slip on my pants and sneak out of the door,
Out of the yard I run like the dickens
To milk ten cows and feed the chickens,
Clean out the barn, curry Nancy and Jiggs,
Separate the cream and slop the pigs,
Work two hours, then eat like a Turk,
And, by heck, I'm ready for a full day's work.

Then I grease the wagon and put on the rack,
Throw a jug of water in an old grain sack,
Hitch up the horses, hustle down the lane,
Look over yonder! Sure as I'm born,
Cattle on the rampage and cows in the corn!
Start across the medder, run a mile or two,
Heaving like I'm wind-broke, get wet clear thro,
Get back to the horses, then for recompense
Nancy gets straddle the barbed-wire fence,
Joints all a-aching and muscles in a jerk,
I'm fit as a fiddle for a full day's work.

Work all summer till winter is nigh,
Then figure up the books and heave a big sigh.
Worked all year, didn't make a thing;
Got less cash now than I had last Spring.
Now, some people tell us that there ain't no hell,
But they never farmed, so they can't tell.
When Spring rolls 'round I take another chance.
While the fringe grows longer on my old gray pants
Give my s'penders a hitch, my belt another jerk,
And, by heck, I'm ready for a full year's work.

(Marienbote)

WATCH YOUR WORDS

Keep a watch on your words, my brother. For words are wonderful things. They are sweet like the bee's fresh honey. Like the bees they have wonderful stings. They can bless, like the warm, glad sunshine and brighten a lonely life. They can cut the strife of anger like an open two-edged knife. Let them pass through your lips unchallenged. If their errand is true and kind—if they come to support the weary to comfort and help the blind; if a bitter, revengeful spirit prompt the words—let them pass unsaid; they may flash through a brain like lightning, or fall on a hearth like lead. Keep them back if they're cold and cruel, under a lock and seal. The wounds that they make, my brother, are always slow to heal. May peace guard your life and ever, from time of your early youth, may the words that you utter daily, be words of beautiful truth.

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FORT ALEXANDER

Rice Picking

What a nice canoe! Did you make it all by yourself?

Yes, all but the canvas.

It certainly does you credit. Why, if a white man saw it, he would not say that Indians are ungrateful and lazy. But what are you going to use it for, may I ask you?

I wish to go and pick wild rice. There was good money in it last year. Quite a few were able to buy themselves second hand cars with the profit.

Do you intend to purchase a car, if everything goes well?

I have my plan. It is a good house I would like to put up, so I need not stay any more with my mother-in-law...

That's a good idea. But are you not afraid that the price of rice will be low this year. So many Indians and whites are going. Then it is war time. The demand might be lower.

As God wills. If I can make a living, I will be satisfied.

* * *

Rice Picnic

Here we are! What a beautiful day Providence has reserved for us. The Fort Alexander Park is now quite open. And such beautiful sheltering trees by the deep brook! Well, did you make good at rice picking?

Nothing to boast of. Really there was no price. But I have paid all my bills, and I have a few cents to spare for the Red Cross and for the church. Come, I will pay you a treat, and we shall be off to the games. My! the school girls look tidy and lively! Hear! They claim they can beat the boys! By the way who is that new Father?

That's Father Poulin. He came to preach the pupils' retreat. Now let me tell you something. You remember how the smoke was thick this morning from the forest fires? Well, what could be done? After dinner the boys and girls went in the chapel and said a decade of their beads. Talk about a prayer! Ten minutes after the smoke cleared away, and now we can play.

But say, it must be interesting to prepare wild rice.

Quite a lot of work in it. Would you like to know later?

* * *

Christmas and the Fiddles

Some Indians said that this year they enjoyed so much the singing of the Indian choir that they could not say their rosary during the midnight mass. Some protestants watched the ceremonies and listened to the sermon attentively. Then the exit march even straightened the back of old Elzear Canada.

On New Year's day the organist had the sadness of seeing his wife fall and break her hip bone. Such a good old lady! says the Doctor of the Pine Falls Hospital. It will take many months of suffering and patience, but all is well if she can walk again. May God help her!

* * *

A Sunday Mass in a Bush Camp

Ten miles from the church, in the choppers' dining room, Father Lambert sings an early mass, at which mingle Indians and a few French-Canadians from St. Pierre, singing together and praising in Holy Communion the God of forests. A Treaty Indian is the contractor for hundreds of cords of pulp wood

and for thousands of logs, which are sawn right there by Mr. Coté

A skating rink affords a healthy pastime amid the stillness of the woods.

Another three weeks and Father Robidoux will take his turn on Sunday among the wood cutters.

Saging

Wegonen wendji ijinikatek owe ishkoni-gan? Anish oma sagidjidiwan kitci sibi Winnipeg sagaiganing. Kakina nipi Kootchitching kaye Wajaskoni-gaming ondji oma bimidiwan. La Verendrye nijwak dasso aki apine gi bimishka oma. Assini-mikwendji-gan gi ojitamawa epitchi wawindaganesid. Kakinik ta patakiteni tci mamikwanind eji songideed wassa-wekamik ki ondji bi-ijad kaye owa pagwatakamik ki bimi-wakaiged jindji-wakakiniganing. (Le Fort Maurepas). Ni minonamin kit akiwa, n'd ikomin ako. Kinawa dash wika no ki ki bi nandawabandana-wa?



THE MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH

Our word Lent from the Old English Lengen—or Springtime suggests the lengthening of the days; this is not the only reason for our happiness at this time since this month is dedicated to St. Joseph, Our Lord's foster-father. Here then is what the Church asks us to tell you about him:

"St. Joseph, tho of the Royal Race of David, was a simple artisan. His pure life and lively faith drew on him the favor of the Almighty Who confined to him the great privilege of becoming the Spouse of Our Lady, and the foster-father of Our Saviour. For nearly thirty years he shared with Mary the sweet company of Jesus. As visible head of the Holy Family, he showed to Jesus and to Mary respect, tenderness and devotion without equal. His submission to the Will of God knew no hesitation, and—was foiled by no obstacle. Bidden by an angel during the night to take the Holy Child with His Mother, and fly to Egypt with them, he rose instantly and set out on the road to exile. At a second angelic command, he left Egypt and returned to Galilee.

His whole life was spent in humble labor, in recollection and in silence. The Gospel recalls no word uttered by his lips, and sums up all his virtues in the word: HE WAS A JUST MAN. It was not given to him to assist at the sufferings or triumph of the Messiah Whom he had loved so tenderly and served so faithfully. Having accomplished his mission faithful to the end in his humble but sublime calling, he had the happiness of dying blessed and consoled by Jesus and Mary.

Let us pray with confidence to this Glorious Patriarch. Let us ask him specially to preserve Jesus in our soul against the profanation of sins, as he defended Him in Judea from the fury of Herod. Inspired by his example, let us live in holiness and justice, never hesitating to do the will of God and applying ourselves to deserve the love and protection of Jesus and Mary."

300 days indulgence may be gained daily during the month by those reciting prayers in his honor, together with a plenary indulgence once during the month.



Problem: A carpenter has to fill a square hole with a board 10 feet long by 2 feet wide. The hole is approximately 4½ by 4½ feet. He uses all the board, how shall he cut it up?

(Answer on page 8)

CATHERINE TEKAKWITHA

17. Influence of Good Example

Tekakwitha became more and more eager to climb the narrow path of perfection and the shortest way is by penance. She followed the examples of the Saints, fasting and punishing her frail body. She could see God's will in all the events of her life. One day a falling tree knocked her unconscious; when she recovered, she thought that if Jesus had saved her life, it was to give her an opportunity to do more penance. A good woman had been given to her as a guide; Anastasie, who had known her parents. She told her once: "Do you want to be like the blessed Virgin? If you do, leave those useless ornaments of wampum that you have in your hair." She got rid of all her bead work.

On the anniversary of her baptism, Easter Sunday, she was admitted to the Confraternity of the Holy Family. She joined eagerly in all the devotions. Three times a day, when the Angelus rang, she knelt wherever she was to recite with great fervor the prayer, and her face was beaming with joy. Every morning she attended the two Masses at the mission. It was not mere youthful enthusiasm nor the faintest desire to show herself; she always remained a humble little Algonquin girl, though very joyful.

Catherine was not losing her time and it was not her love for God which hindered her from working. As at Kanawaki, she remained a very industrious little bee. And yet in that attentive and humble fulfilment of her daily humdrum duties, she was in prayer, she was thinking of God.

Through conversation, little by little, Fr. Cholenec found out the way God had given her that extraordinary gift of prayer. And thanks to these confidences, we know what was taking place in her soul. In the morning, at the early dawn, as soon as she entered the chapel, and at her usual place she would stay motionless for hours. The object of her meditation was always about the beauty of Baptism. She marvelled tirelessly about God's goodness to make us his very children in Christ. And the thought of Christ living in her heart recalled to her His presence in the Tabernacle, in the Sacrament of the altar. And in her gratitude to God, who had been so good for her, the little Indian girl, her blanket-hood pulled over her eyes in the silent chapel, was praying for the conversion of the Pagan Indians, Kanawake, her uncle.

That lack of complacency in herself, forgetting all what she was, to abandon herself in the admiration of God and of his grace in her soul, the deep and sincere love of Jesus in the Holy Sacrament, the interest brought to the conversion of the pagans and sinners for a greater mystical body show how that little soul, born a pagan, deprived of all the traditions of Catholic education in a Catholic family, had secured from the Holy Ghost the true sense, and the most classic tradition of the most genuine Christian prayer. This is reinforced by her great love for Our Lady. Catherine never liked to speak about herself as many people often do; she never brooded over herself but was fond of talking about the Blessed Virgin Mary. For her she left forever her ornaments, and she always carried her Rosary with her to say it at odd times when her hands were not busy at work.

18. First Communion

At that time, it was always after a long test that new Indian converts were admitted to receive Holy Communion. Even for those who showed great piety, it was not granted. The missionaries wanted to see

if it was a sound change, and Perseverance is not a common virtue among the natives. On the other hand, at the end of the 17th century, rigid rules prevailed in the use of the great Sacrament. All the more reason for dealing so with fickle people just emerging from paganism and cannibalism. Do not forget that a few years previously it was the Indians of Kanawaki who ate slices of living flesh from the body of Father Jogues, drank the blood of Fr. de Brebeuf, and devoured his heart. Then we understand why the missionaries required at least two years of an exemplary life from their faithful whose lips had sung ferocious war-songs and partaken the awful feasts of their war-god, Areskoi. Yet we can guess how those enthusiastic new Christians were longing for Communion.

But a great exception was made for Catherine. She was admitted to Holy Communion for the first time, after waiting only a few months at Caughnawaga. It was Christmas day, 1677, when Jesus satisfied the hunger of the young maiden. Such a beautiful ceremony wiped away in its mystery the last souvenir she could have kept in her memory of the barbarous pagan orgies, when torrents of human blood and fire-water were poured at Kanawaki. Now in the peaceful and neat little chapel God's majesty was wrapped in the humility of a little white host to renew in Catherine's soul the joyful event of that Holy Night.

Fr. Guy, O.M.I.

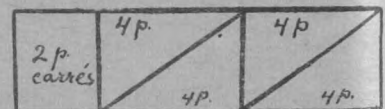
(Continued)



David and Goliath

Answer:

The carpenter will saw the board like this



and this is how the pieces will cover the hole

